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REMARKS

The objection to claim 24 has been corrected.

Claim 22 calls for a mating manager to be included in the system. The system must include a processor, a bus coupled to the processor, and a controller. The mating manager must access the configuration space on the controller, detect a component external to the system having a configuration space, compare an identifier from said external component with an identifier from said configuration space, and, if the identifiers match, write information into the configuration spaces of the controller and the external component. Thus, the claim requires that a mating manager resident on a first system access the configuration space of an external system and compare an identifier from that configuration space with an identifier on its own system. No such operation ever occurs in Hwong and, therefore, reconsideration is requested.

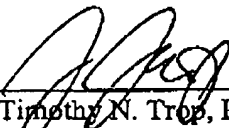
In paragraph 18 of the final rejection, it is conceded that Hwong does not show a globally unique identifier from said configuration space. However, the claimed comparison is not identified in the reference. Namely, the comparison where a unit on a first system obtains an identifier from a configuration space on an external system and compares that external identifier to an identifier obtained on its own system does not appear in the cited references.

The assertion that Chou shows a globally unique identifier for a configuration does not meet the claimed limitation. Moreover, the asserted rationale to combine appears only to address using globally unique identifiers, not for having a device on one system that accesses configuration spaces on its own system and an external system and compares identifiers from those two sources.

Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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